THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) New/revised bilateral Air Service Agreements were initialled with Brazil, Tunisia, Australia and USA during the last three years.

(b) The utilization of seats by Indian and foreign carriers under these agreements is as follows:—

Country	Indian utilization	Foreign utilization
Brazil	Nil	Nil
Tunisia	Nil	Nil
Australia	Nil	1350 seats/week
USA	10,575 seats/week	6678 seats/week

(c) and (d) Signing of new/revised bilateral Air Service Agreements is a continuous process and is decided through due consultations between the two Governments.

Airlines' tie-up with foreign airlines

2169. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector airlines in India have developed ties with foreign airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Carriers like Air India and Indian Airlines are losing the revenue due to the ties with the foreign airlines; and

(d) if so, the loss of such revenue due to the tie-up with foreign airlines during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Some private sector airlines in India have entered into interline agreement and frequent flier agreement to promote their network on the tickets of the foreign carriers. This is an established commercial practice adopted by most airlines to promote their network.

(c) and (d) Air India/Indian Airlines also have interline/FFP tie-ups with foreign airlines. It is not possible to assess loss to Air India and Indian Airlines due to such tie-ups.

Development of Mandakalli airport at Mysore

2170. SHRI KB. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to take up the development of Mandakalli airport at Mysore in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the extent of land sought for by Government;

(c) whether the Airports Authority of India has made any survey;

(d) whether the State Government of Karnataka has entered into the MoU with the Airports Authority of India agreeing to the terms and conditions proposed by Government; and

(e) what is the present status of the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 175 acres of land.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is in the process of finalizing an MoU with the State Government of Karnataka for development of Mandakalli airport at Mysore. The project details would be finalized after the required land is handed over to AAI.

Recruitment of pilots by IA

2171. SHRI V NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines has decided to induct large number of pilots for its global flights; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Indian Airlines is inducting new flights for expanding its operations in the National and the International sector?